

**Please Amend Claim 1, 3, 5, 6, 8 and 10 as follows:**

1. (Currently Amended) A magnetic head assembly comprising:  
a flexible flexure comprising a slider fixed thereto and having an electro-magnetic conversion element integrally therewith; and  
a load beam for mounting the flexure,  
wherein the flexure comprises a junction piece protruded from an edge of the flexure for joining the load beam and a main flexure in that the junction piece is detached from the load beam by an external force pulling the flexure in the a leading end direction in a state that the junction piece is joined to the load beam.

2. (Original) An assembly according to Claim 1, further comprising a sub-flexure, wherein the sub-flexure is joined to the load beam with the main flexure detached therefrom at a position different from that of the junction piece.

3. (Currently Amended) A magnetic head assembly comprising:  
a flexible flexure comprising a slider fixed thereto and having an electro-magnetic conversion element integrally therewith; and  
a load beam for mounting the flexure,  
wherein the flexure comprises a junction piece protruded from an edge of the flexure for joining the load beam and a main flexure having a cleavage part that is cleaved upon exertion of an external force pulling the flexure in the a leading end direction in a state that the junction piece is joined to the load beam.

4. (Original) An assembly according to Claim 2, wherein the sub-flexure is joined to the load beam, in which the main flexure is cleaved at the cleavage part of the junction piece and has the remained junction piece, at a position different from that of the junction piece of the main flexure.

5. (Currently Amended) An assembly according to Claim 2, wherein the main flexure comprises a flexible printed circuit board for connecting between a first terminal of the electro-magnetic conversion element of the

slider and an electronic component to be mounted, and the flexible printed circuit board is fixed to the load beam, and

wherein when the main flexure is removed from the load beam in a state that the flexible printed circuit board is fixed, a portion between the load beam and the main flexure is cleaved.

6. (Currently Amended) An assembly according to Claim 5, wherein the sub-flexure comprises a flexible printed circuit board for connecting between a second terminal of the electro-magnetic conversion element of the slider and a conduction pattern corresponding to the flexible printed circuit board remained in the load beam.

7. (Original) A method for manufacturing a magnetic head assembly, the manufacturing method for mounting a flexible flexure, which supports a slider having an electro-magnetic conversion element integrally, on a load beam, the method comprising the steps of:

detachably joining a main flexure, which has a junction piece for joining the load beam, to the load beam with the junction piece therebetween;

inspecting characteristics by floating the electro-magnetic conversion element onto a magnetic disc;

when the characteristics do not satisfy a reference as a result of the inspection,

removing the main flexure by applying a pulling force to the main flexure so as to detach the junction piece from the load beam; and

at least one time joining a sub-flexure, which has a junction piece located at a position different from that of the junction piece of the main flexure, to the load beam, from which the main flexure is detached, at the junction position.

8. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 7, wherein the main flexure comprises a flexible printed circuit board for connecting between the electro-magnetic conversion element and an electronic circuit for mounting on the magnetic head assembly,

the method further comprising:

fixing the flexible printed circuit board, located on the load beam, to the load beam after the step of detachably joining the main flexure to the load beam with the junction piece therebetween;

cleaving the flexible printed circuit board at a boundary between the portion fixed to the load beam and the main flexure, which is included in the step of removing the main flexure by applying a pulling force to the main flexure so as to detach the junction piece from the load beam; and

connecting the an end terminal of the flexible printed circuit board, which is connected to the electro-magnetic conversion element of the sub-flexure, to a conduction part corresponding to the flexible printed circuit board fixed to the load beam after the step of joining the sub-flexure to the load beam.

9. (Original) A method for manufacturing a magnetic head assembly, the manufacturing method for mounting a flexible flexure, which has a slider fixed thereto and having an electro-magnetic conversion element integrally, on a load beam, the method comprising the steps of:

joining a main flexure, which has a junction piece for joining the load beam, to the load beam with the junction piece therebetween;

inspecting characteristics by floating the electro-magnetic conversion element onto a magnetic disc;

when the characteristics do not satisfy a reference as a result of the inspection,

removing the main flexure from the load beam by cleaving the main flexure at a cleavage part disposed in a vicinity of the junction piece; and

at least one time joining a sub-flexure, which can be joined at a position different from that of the junction piece, to the load beam, from which the main flexure is removed so as to leave the junction piece.

10. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 9, wherein the main flexure comprises a flexible printed circuit board for connecting between the electro-magnetic conversion element and an electronic component for mounting on the magnetic head assembly,

the method further comprising:

fixing the flexible printed circuit board, located on the load beam, to the load beam after the step of joining the main flexure to the load beam with the junction piece therebetween;

cleaving the flexible printed circuit board at a boundary between the portion fixed to the load beam and the main flexure, which is included in the step of removing the main flexure from the load beam by cleaving the main flexure at the cleavage part disposed in the vicinity of the junction piece; and

connecting the an end terminal of the flexible printed circuit board, which is connected to the electro-magnetic conversion element of the sub-flexure, to a conduction part corresponding to the flexible printed circuit board fixed to the load beam after the step of joining the sub-flexure to the load beam.